

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-21 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 2 and 9-13 are amended. Claim 4 is canceled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter is added. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicant gratefully acknowledges that claims 2, 4 and 9-16 contain allowable subject matter. Reconsideration of the remaining claims in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

This application is in condition for allowance because claim 1 is amended with the allowable subject matter of claim 4. Also, claims 2 and 9-13 are amended to be in independent form.

In accordance with the above remarks, independent claims 1, 2 and 9-13 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 3, 5-8 and 14-21 depend from independent claims 1 and 13, respectively, and therefore are patentable for the same reasons, as well as for the additional features recited therein. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw the rejections.

Applicant respectfully asserts that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-3 and 5-21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Amendment Transmittal

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